

SERIAL NO. 10/720,912

REMARKS

This is in response to the Examiner's Office Action of 08/17/2006, which was sent in response to the Appeal Brief of Applicants filed May 26, 2006.

The claims have been amended herein to direct the invention to a hair care product which includes the defined tough polymer, which exhibits advantageous flexible, water-resistant films on the hair of the user, which has desirable solubility or dispersibility in various solvents, and demonstrates excellent hold and durability properties. These attributes now are present in amended claim 7 which remains as the sole claim in the application.

Amended claim 7 is believed to be patentable over cited Jacquet et al (U.S. 4,283,384). The Examiner has stated that claim 1 of Jacquet discloses a shampoo composition produced by polymerizing selected monomers. However, the Examiner has indicated that the reference does not show examples of graft copolymers of polyvinyl alcohol which incorporates these selected monomers. Examples 14 and 15 were seen to teach a related preparation of graft copolymers of dialkylaminoalkyl (meth)acrylates and polyvinyl alcohol, and it was considered obvious to make a shampoo of these copolymers.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of amended claim 7 on this reference. Examples 14 and 15 therein merely discloses related, but not the same, monomers with polyvinyl alcohol, and, particularly, the disclosed polymers are not tough polymers. Furthermore, these disclosed polymers were only used in shampoo formulations, not in hair care products, as herein, which forms flexible, water-resistant films on the hair of the user, unlike shampoos. In addition, the composition of claim 7, which includes the novel tough polymer, can be formulated in various solvents, and it provides excellent hold and durability when applied to hair.

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Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes that the polymers herein, and their hair care properties, were not shown or suggested or made obvious in any part of the cited reference. Reconsideration and early allowance of amended claim 7 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Katz", written over a horizontal line.

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